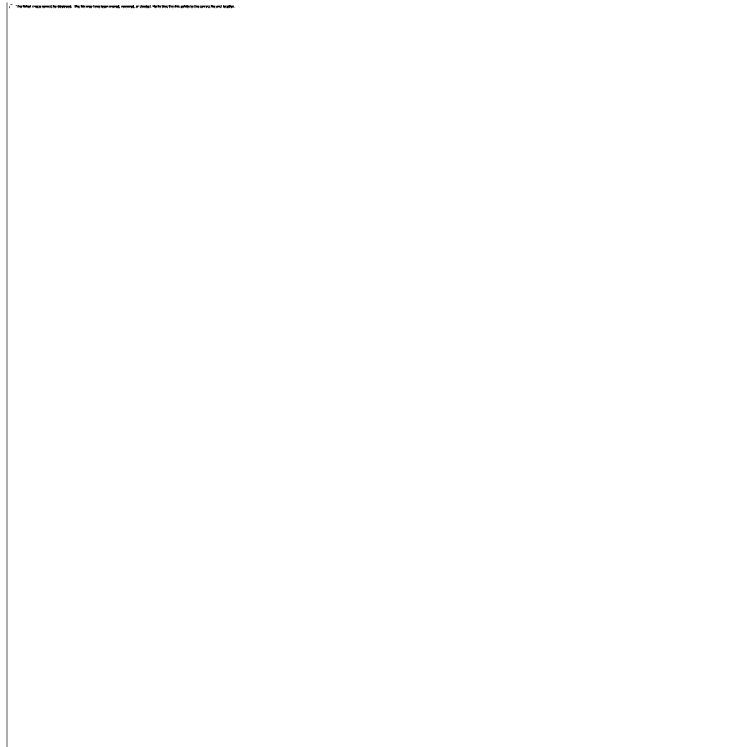
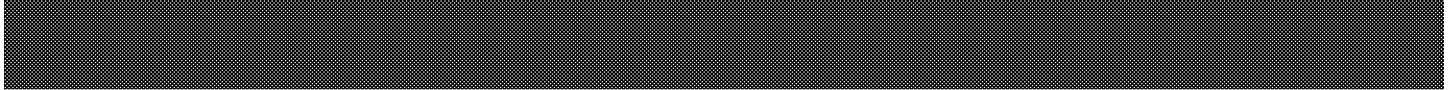


## Message

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**From:** Morning Consult [reply@e.morningconsult.com]  
**Sent:** 8/27/2018 12:49:16 PM  
**To:** Woods, Clint [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=bc65010f5c2e48f4bc2aa050db50d198-Woods, Clint]  
**Subject:** Morning Consult Energy: Musk Backtracks on Plan to Take Tesla Private



By [Jacqueline Toth](#)

## Top Stories

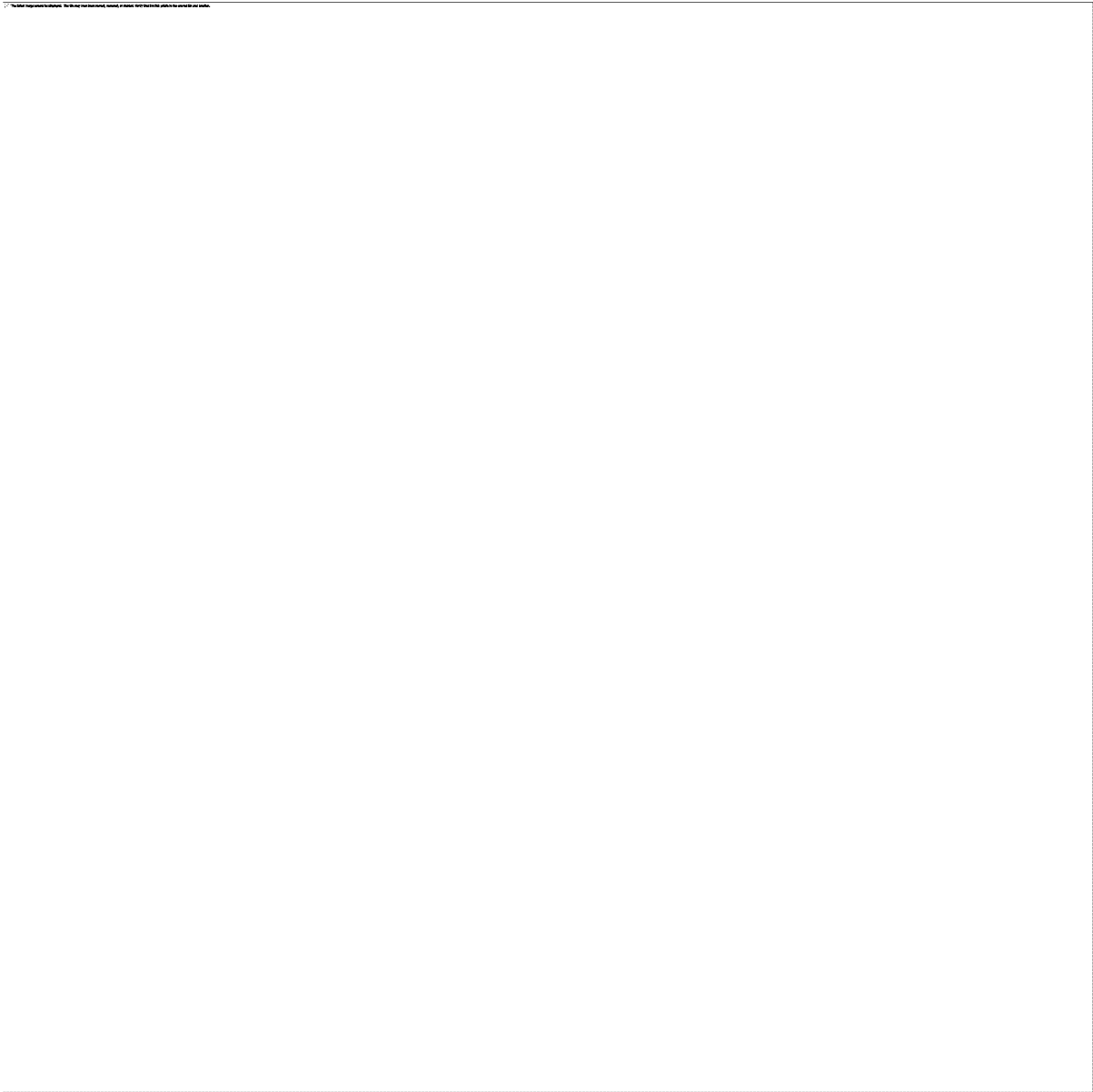
- Tesla Inc. Chief Executive Elon Musk said that he and the board of directors will not pursue turning Tesla into a private company, following a tumultuous few weeks of speculation and the launch of a securities investigation after Musk tweeted on Aug. 7 that he was considering taking the company private. Separately, six of Tesla's board members reaffirmed their support for Musk as CEO. ([The New York Times](#))

- The United States and Mexico may resolve outstanding differences over the North Atlantic Free Trade Agreement talks as early as today after breakthroughs on energy and automobile issues, according to three people familiar with the discussions. The two countries have addressed the incoming Mexican government's concerns that the new agreement would put too many constraints on how Mexico can treat foreign oil firms that invest in the country, said Jesus Seade, the NAFTA negotiator for President-elect Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador. ([Bloomberg](#) )
- Documents released under a Freedom of Information Act request to a nonprofit identify PG&E Corp. as the utility that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission fined \$2.7 million in May for losing control of a database with 30,000 records containing sensitive information, including passwords and system controls, which was exposed online for 70 days. At the time it issued the fine for the 2016 breach, FERC had declined to name the utility. ([The Wall Street Journal](#))

## Chart Review

Permian region is expected to drive U.S. crude oil production growth through 2019

**U.S. Energy Information Administration**



Events Calendar (All Times Local)

MONDAY

National Conference on Ecosystem Restoration	7:30 a.m.
National Renewable Energy Laboratory webinar on marine energy, hydropower and pumped storage	10 a.m.

## **TUESDAY**

National Conference on Ecosystem Restoration	8:30 a.m.
Senate Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries and Coast Guard Subcommittee hearing on harmful algal blooms	2:30 p.m.
University of Chicago panel discussion on oil and gas production and transportation advancements	6:30 p.m.

## **WEDNESDAY**

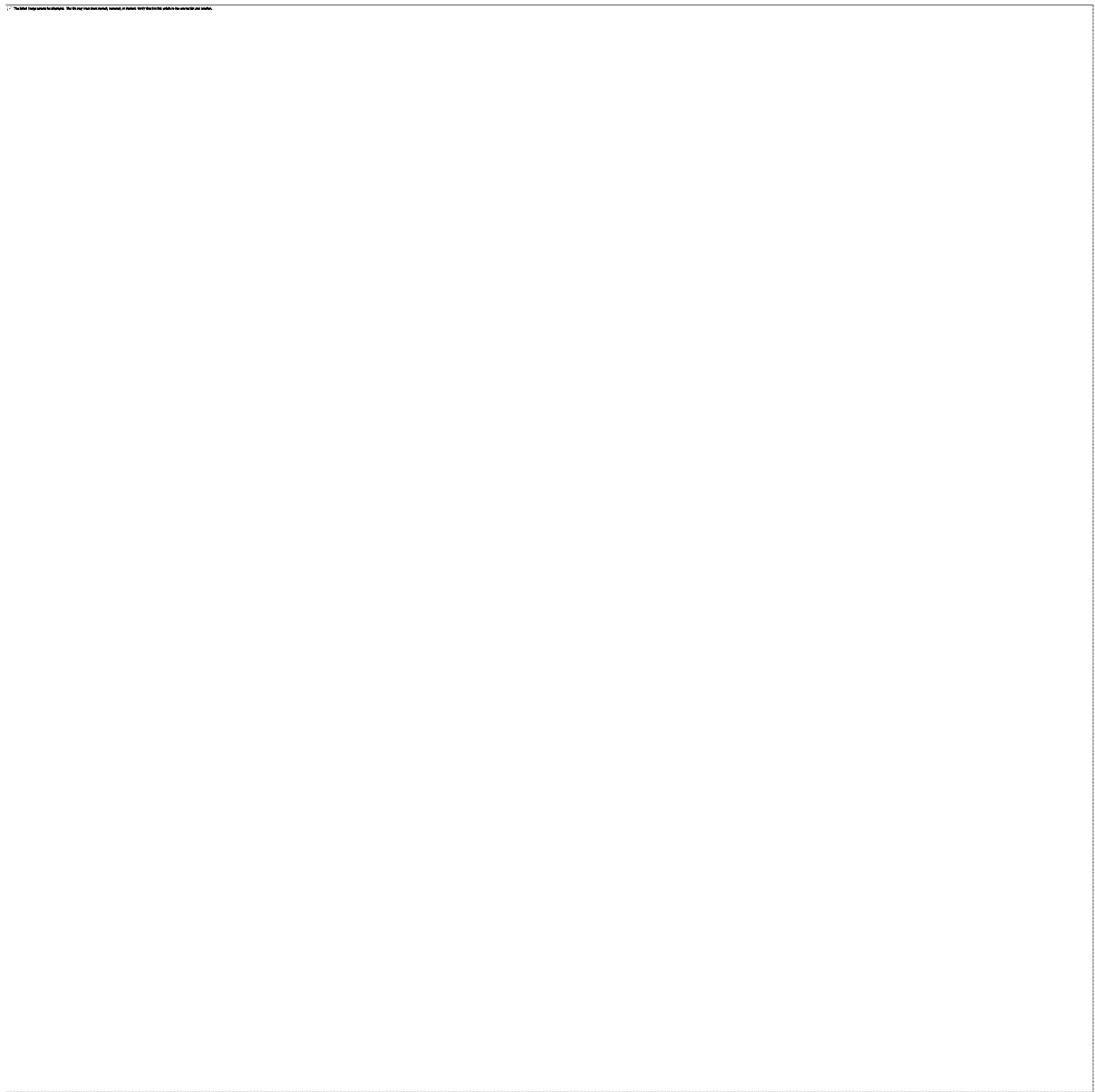
National Conference on Ecosystem Restoration	8:30 a.m.
U.S. Energy Association presentation on the 2018 U.S. Energy and Employment Report	10 a.m.
Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation executive session on fishing and other bills and several nominations	10 a.m.
Nuclear Regulatory Commission public meeting on Interim Storage Partners' response plan for the interim storage facility	1 p.m.
House Natural Resources field hearing on energy and education in Utah	2 p.m.

## **THURSDAY**

National Conference on Ecosystem Restoration    8:30 a.m.

## **FRIDAY**

No events scheduled



## **CSR & Political Activism in the Trump Era**

How to avoid a firestorm and improve your brand's reputation.

### **General**

Pesticide Studies Won E.P.A.'s Trust, Until Trump's Team  
Scorned 'Secret Science'

**Danny Hakim and Eric Lipton, The New York Times**

José Camacho once worked the fields here in the Salinas Valley, known as "the Salad Bowl of the World" for its abundance of lettuce and vegetables. His wife still does.

Oil dips as trade row weighs, Iran sanctions expected to cut  
supply

**Henning Gloystein, Reuters**

Oil prices fell on Monday on concerns the U.S.-China trade dispute will erode global economic growth, although looming U.S. sanctions against Iran's oil sector kept crude from falling further, traders said.

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## **Oil and Natural Gas**

Saudi Aramco loses its 'in perpetuity' oil and gas rights

**Anjali Raval, Financial Times**

Saudi Arabia has cut the length of time that its state energy company has exclusive rights to the kingdom's vast oil and gasfields, raising questions about Saudi Aramco's long-term production and revealing a power struggle between the company and the government.

Venezuela's PDVSA files appeal against Crystallex court ruling

**Angus Berwick, Reuters**

Venezuela's state oil firm Petroleos de Venezuela SA (PDVSA) said on Saturday it filed an appeal requesting that a Delaware court vacate a decision on Aug. 23 granting Canadian miner Crystallex the right to seize its U.S. assets.

Gas-fired generation remains on track to capture increasingly  
larger share of MISO market

**Brandon Evans, Platts**

After several years of increased coal-to-gas switching across the Midcontinent Independent System Operator service area, the region is expected to become even more bullish for gas as additional coal retirements loom while multiple new gas-fired plants are slated to enter service over the next few years.

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## Utilities and Infrastructure

### California lawmakers find critics on both sides as they unveil effort to help utilities pay wildfire costs

**John Myers, Los Angeles Times**

A far-reaching proposal to assist electric utility companies faced with covering billions of dollars in wildfire damage was unveiled Friday to intense debate over whether ratepayers would end up saddled with some of the bill for California's worst-ever fire year.

### Utilities pivot from power plants to grid work for profits

**Emery P. Dalesio, The Associated Press**

Electric utilities are pouring billions of dollars into a race to prevent terrorists or enemy governments from shutting down the power grid and everything that depends on electricity in America's hyper-connected society.

### PacifiCorp, Idaho Power agree to make CAISO their reliability coordinator

**Peter Maloney, Utility Dive**

Idaho Power and PacifiCorp committed Thursday to take Reliability Coordinator (RC) services from the California ISO (CAISO). The Balancing Authority of Northern California has also committed to using CAISO's services, bringing the total commitments to three.???

### Microgrid adoption could accelerate in the US in coming years

**Jared Anderson, Platts**

Citing an increase in power outages, Silicon Valley manufacturing firm JSR Micro said Thursday it will install a microgrid system that can power its operations if the power grid fails, a solution that could proliferate in the coming years.

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## Renewables

### Exxon Seeks Wind, Solar Power Delivery in Texas

**Brian Eckhouse and Kevin Crowley, Bloomberg**

Exxon Mobil Corp. has been looking to buy renewable energy for delivery in Texas, according to people familiar with the matter.

Energy firm executives plead not guilty in tax credits case  
**The Associated Press**

Two top executives of a Salt Lake City-based biodiesel company have pleaded not guilty to fraud and other federal charges accusing them of filing false claims that resulted in the company being issued \$511 million of renewable fuel tax credits.

Musk's Brazen Gambit Collapsed as Investor Support Withered  
**Dana Hull et al., Bloomberg**

Elon Musk's stunning tweet that he wanted to take Tesla Inc. private and had funding secured was a classic Musk moonshot - given credibility only by the sense that if anyone could possibly pull such a brazen feat, he was the guy.

Musk's U-turn on Tesla deal could intensify his legal, regulatory woes  
**Michelle Price, Reuters**

Tesla Inc Chief Executive Elon Musk's decision to abruptly abandon a plan to take his electric carmaker private will not resolve his mounting regulatory and legal woes, and may even make them worse, some securities lawyers said.

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## **Coal**

Clean Power Plan replacement revealed, but Wyoming's moved on  
**Heather Richards, Casper Star Tribune**

The Clean Power Plan was once the storm on the horizon for Wyoming's coal industry, threatening job loss, production decline and a catastrophic revenue drain both in coal communities and the state as a whole.

Even in Coal Country, Trump Aid Won't Keep This Power Plant Open  
**Chris Martin, Bloomberg**

Vistra Energy Corp. plans to close another money-losing coal plant this year despite the Trump administration's efforts to prop up the ailing fossil-fuel industry.



Amid relaxed coal restrictions, NIPSCO keeps plan to retire plants

**Karen Caffarini, Post-Tribune**

The Trump administration's newly announced proposal to dramatically scale back restrictions on emissions from coal-fired power plants would result in more asthma and other health issues in the region, while failing to stop these plants' inevitable demise, according to a local environmentalist and an Indiana University professor.

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## **Nuclear**

The Nuclear Power Plant of the Future May Be Floating Near Russia

**Andrew E. Kramer, The New York Times**

Along the shore of Kola Bay in the far northwest of Russia lie bases for the country's nuclear submarines and icebreakers. Low, rocky hills descend to an industrial waterfront of docks, cranes and railway tracks. Out on the bay, submarines have for decades stalked the azure waters, traveling between their port and the ocean depths.

The \$4.7 Billion Nuclear Bill That No One Wants to Pay

**Mengqi Sun, The Wall Street Journal**

The primary owner of a power plant with two partially built nuclear reactors in South Carolina walked away from the \$9 billion project last summer because of high construction costs and delays. Now no one wants to pay for it.

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## **Climate**

VW's compliance monitor urges greater transparency

**Edward Taylor and Jan Schwartz, Reuters**

Volkswagen's external compliance monitor on Monday said he disagreed with some VW executives' use of privacy and attorney client privilege rights to withhold information about a \$27 billion global emissions cheating scandal.

### Merkel says EU should meet existing emissions aims, not set new ones

**Thomas Escritt, Reuters**

A proliferation of extreme weather events around the world provides ample evidence that climate change is a reality, German Chancellor Angela Merkel said on Sunday, but she rejected calls for more ambitious climate protection goals.

### Trump reshaped U.S. climate policy in one month: August 2018

**Maxine Joselow and Benjamin Storrow, E&E News**

August was supposed to be a quiet month for climate politics, a time when Congress went on recess; President Trump played golf in Bedminster, N.J.; and Americans took a break from politics before this November's midterm elections. Instead, it may go down as a historic turning point in U.S. climate efforts.

### So Far, More Heat Waves Do Not Mean More Heat Deaths

**Christopher Joyce, WAMU**

More Americans die from the effects of heat than of any other form of severe weather, and this summer has seen one heat wave after another. Some places in the U.S. and elsewhere have recorded their highest temperatures ever.

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## **Opinions, Editorials and Perspectives**

### Trump ends Obama's war on coal

**U.S. Rep. Steve Scalise (R-La.), Washington Examiner**

Last week's announcement from the Trump administration, on the EPA's new Affordable Clean Energy Plan to replace the Clean Power Plan, is another welcome addition to President Trump's list of promises fulfilled that benefit American workers.

### Putting Elon Musk's Tesla into climate change perspective

**Amy Harder, Axios**

Elon Musk and Tesla offer a gripping corporate tale and coveted electric cars, but when it comes to climate change, they are a rather minor subplot.

Climate change brought down another government in Australia. Here's what happened.

**Joshua Busby, The Washington Post**

In Australia, Scott Morrison was sworn in as prime minister on Friday night, after an internal party revolt that led to the downfall of Malcolm Turnbull, who had been premier since September 2015. Conservative backbenchers within Turnbull's own right-leaning Liberal party rejected his proposal to address climate change through an emissions reduction target, and challenged his leadership.

McCain Was a Warrior for the Climate

**Fred Krupp, The Wall Street Journal**

As a prisoner of war two generations ago, John McCain proved his patriotism and bravery. But it was through his more recent work to protect future generations of Americans that I knew Sen. McCain. Tributes to the American hero, who died Saturday at 81, must not overlook the political bravery-and, yes, patriotism-he showed in the fight to meet the threat of climate change.

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## **Research Reports**

Streamlining Environmental Permitting

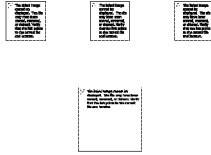
**EHS Strategies**

The push is on to find ways to speed up the federal review and authorization process for major infrastructure projects, which are those that require multiple agency approvals, an environmental impact statement, and designated funding.

The Favor Factory

**Jenny Rowland and Marc Rehmann, The Center for American Progress**

On August 3, 2017, Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke spent his afternoon and evening with David Lesar, the chairman of oil services giant Halliburton. The two men met in Zinke's lavish Interior Department offices, toured the Lincoln Memorial together, and then had dinner at a popular Washington, D.C., beer garden



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